

ABC NEWS Live Coverage of The Assassination of President Kennedy Part 6

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ>)

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From The Evening of Friday November 22nd 1963, ABC News Coverage of The Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

[00:00:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ)

President Johnson's first lady by the way is really named Claudia but since she was 2 years old she's been known to everyone as Lady Bird a nickname she got from a nurse Mrs. Johnson is a petite brunette 50 years old and has been at her husband's side in Washington for 30 years she was with him in Dallas today when he became the 36th president a job that Mrs. Johnson said once that she regarded with awe Mrs. Johnson is the daughter of the wealthy Texas rancher she studied journalism at the University of Texas and is a qualified second grade teacher as well she also is an expert at shorthand and often makes political notes for her husband the Johnsons were married in 1934 when the man who's now president was just 26 they have two daughters Lynda Bird 19 and Luci Baines 16 a macabre ironic footnote to the news of this day from Houston Houston police chief H. Buddy McGill revealed tonight the police in his City received four telephone calls yesterday threatening the president's life while he was in Houston the information was turned over to the Secret Service and McGill said the president should wear his bulletproof vest that was I should say that was what one woman caller told the police there another a man said watch out for Kennedy because I'm going to kill him the police department switchboard in Houston was jam tonight with telecom telephone calls from places as distant as Sydney Australia many of those calls were of the crank variety a police spokesman said many of the callers what most of them wanted to know why we killed President Kennedy the spokesman said in the studio Ron Cochran and James Haggerty and we switched to them now thank you bomb I thought that we would talk with Mr. Haggerty who of course spent eight years in the White House with President Eisenhower about the hazards that the special hazards that a president faces of course every time he steps outside the door he does it to a certain extent places life in jeopardy

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certain extent places life in jeopardy but there are certain times when the hazards are greater than others and I know that there were some such moments during President Eisenhower's tenure in the White House yes there were Ron and I think it's a pertinent to the events of the day to reveal now that there were during Eisenhower's time of office to serious scares both of which involve the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico this was the same group that tried to shoot their way in the Blair House in 1950 as Bob Young has just said there are always the usual crackpot calls addressed to the office of the president either calls or letters or course the police departments those are always checked out as carefully as they could but the two that I am referring to now was in about 1958 in the spring of 1958 when the Secret Service I received a report from a seller a source that there was a nationalist that was going to come to the United States he would be armed with two grenades and he would try to throw these grenades into the president's car while the president was on a motorcade in Midwest City of course in any reports like this the Secret Service or the FBI goes under full action exactly they have to do in checking these things out while you're on that subject Lee I think

that it might be important to point out that the FBI does not have the jurisdiction over protecting the President as such they only investigate such matters this agenda is the Secret Service's function but many times the Secret Service passes the information on to the FBI and they work with the Secret

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to the FBI and they work with the Secret Service field offices throughout the country in this case the first case there was found in the male children aids they were White House male know this was this was a package that had been mailed in from outside the country to a fictitious or at least a name that nobody could discover in a Southwest City and they went delivered and nobody could find the sender or the supposedly Siva and whether they were actually related to the report nobody knew but for about two or three weeks right after that the Syria or just during that time the Secret Service taking there the questionnaire measures a great deal for example in the motorcade instead of a follow-up car to follow-up cars will put on almost flanking the president's car to protect pants on either side of any crowd the second episode also involved Porto Rican nationalists and that followed about a year later when again our government received reports that there had been a private and secret meeting in Porto Rico among some of the nationalists and they were going to try again to get President Eisenhower once again the security was tightened up very fast and but again nothing occurred but these these are the things that happen with a president President Eisenhower of course was aware of this but he like President Kennedy or any other president is completely fatalistic and completely fearless about his own personal safety and I think that these two episodes are interesting as I say in light of today's development well now of course you also had the

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now of course you also had the experience during the time immediately following President Eisenhower's heart attack when there was the question about how the country was going to be run the president was in fact there for a period of time not able to handle all of the functions of his office himself and in that case I believe that Vice President Nixon did take on a considerable load this of course stems from what might be called a lapse in the Constitution when you say with respect to that yes I would and I think a by product today's tragedy Vince brings to the fore again a really a gap in the Constitution of what happens when a President of the United States is incapacitated and cannot perform his duties as if for instance he had been seriously wounded and had been out of operation for a week among our so forth Mr. Roosevelt only Mr. Eisenhower with his heart attack certainly was out of action for several weeks and both Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. Kennedy have pointed this out urge the Congress to take action to fill the gap with what happens in our country in this scientific age in this nuclear age in this age of high-flying jet aircraft and higher flying missiles who runs a ship who takes over when the president is incapacitated both President Eisenhower and Kennedy have had their own personal agreement with their vice presidents in which they in effect said if I am ill you take over and one until I can come back on my job but the question of the Constitution comes in to this and is it constitutionally correct it's a serious problem and I think that something like this brings us to the fore again and I

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this brings us to the fore again and I know that both presidents are wished that this could be determined once and for all do you recall whether there were any particular objections or was there any special reason why this matter was not acted upon by Congress at that time I think for two reasons one that could not be decided which way it would happen President Eisenhower which I'm more familiar with frozen eyes now has said that he would let the cabinet decide when a president was incapacitated or he would let the committee of the Congress decide and it was impossible to get the right formula is set up at the time I think President Kennedy if my memory is life also said about the same thing that they didn't care how it was done but it should be done and this is a byproduct of today that I think rise up as a very important question in the future would you care to make any predictions as to whether you know good good many political figures do you think that some action will be taken on this this time I would hope I would hope that that it would be because

as I said in in this day of high flying aircraft and missiles and everything like that you cannot have any gap somebody has to be in charge somebody has to give the orders if necessary in case of a crisis somebody has to run the store which explains why perhaps why vice president and vice president Johnson was sworn into office on the airplane before they took off immediately there could be no break in the continuity of a chief executive or the office of the presidency of the United States thank you very much thank you now back to Bob Young thank you Ron Jim Haggerty there is no break in the continuity of the presidency of the United States Lyndon b

[00:10:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=600s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=600s)

presidency of the United States Lyndon b Johnson grimly assuming the burdens of that presidency tonight and actively winning a pledge of bipartisan congressional cooperation he went immediately to his office held a series of conferences and at 9:38 this evening retired to his heavily guarded home in the Spring Valley section of Northwest Washington a new chief executive won his pledge of cooperation from Democratic and Republican congressional leaders at a very brief meeting in his old vice presidential offices near the White House after that conference the White House issued a brief statement saying that President Johnson had asked the officials of the House and Senate for their united support in the face of the tragedy that has befallen our country in his words he said that it's more essential than ever before that this country be united the legislative leaders of both parties assured President Johnson of their bipartisan cooperation Johnson who was sworn into office in the presidential plane just before it left Dallas for Washington also conferred in the capital with defense secretary McNamara White House adviser George Meahan George Bundy and Under Secretary of State George Ball at 9:30 tomorrow morning the new president is scheduled to meet with Secretary of State Dean Rusk one of six cabinet members who are on route to Japan when the former vice president was suddenly thrust into the nation's highest office the others who turned back between Honolulu and Tokyo when word was flashed to President Kennedy's death where Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon Commerce Secretary Luther Hodges agriculture secretary Freeman labor secretary Wirtz and interior secretary Udall all of these officials by the way are expected to keep in their posts at least for the time being the president also talked on the telephone tonight with FBI director J Edgar Hoover about the late president's assassin he also talked the White House said with Governor Connolly's physician and learned that the governor's condition is good at 9:24 Johnson left the White House to motor to his residence as I said his car was preceded by three police motorcycles the lead policeman furiously blowing his whistle as that procession went up 52nd Street

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as that procession went up 52nd Street Johnson looked drawn and tired but managed a wave to rating newsmen and neighbors say that his black limousine pulled into the long driveway and through the ornamental gates to his home quickly we're going out to Washington for an updated report there by ABC's Bob Fleming vice president left the White House tonight if he took time for reminiscence he must have thought of the number of times he'd been there before he was no longer the vice president it's a term that those of us who have known him here will continue to use a habit we'll have to break whenever the last President Johnson had been in the White House very often I've had the pleasure of sitting with him as he reminisced about some of his experiences he came to Washington as a young Turk first of all he was working in the key in the office of another congressman his father had helped him get the position his father had been in the Texas Legislature with another distinguished Texan Sam Rayburn Mr. Johnson became ill as a young man he became ill on a Saturday said to his roommate on Sunday morning you didn't feel like getting out of bed in late Sunday afternoon the roommate decided that Lyndon Johnson was quite ill he called a doctor when the doctor said somebody better stay with the young man the roommate was a little bit perplexed he had other assignments of his own he worked for another congressman and so he didn't know what to do but he arranged Lyndon Johnson to be taken to a hospital Mr. Johnson has a senator once told me that when he woke up in the morning there was a little fat man sitting in the corner of the room with a cigarette in his mouth that had gone out and ashes streamed down his vest and this was Sam Rayburn winning walk Mr. Wrayburn he said I decided if Mr. Johnson's boy needed somebody it better be me and so Mr. Wrayburn had come to

the health of the young clerk from Texas the two became close friends Lyndon Johnson was a Roosevelt appointee in public office and ran for Congress in his home state and came back to the House of Representatives to be one of the Sam Rayburn's close associates as a matter of fact it was in mr. Rayburn's office

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of fact it was in mr. Rayburn's office at the request of the Vice President Johnson then a member of the House that Harry Truman first learned the death had come to Franklin Roosevelt mr. Johnson's story of that afternoon was this he said that mr. Rabin said to him one day Lyndon the vice presidents are pretty lonesome man he doesn't think anybody anybody around here likes him very much President is very nice to him senators aren't very nice to him let's us be nice to him mr. Wrayburn had said kept some of his friends together hasn't come over my office tomorrow afternoon late in the afternoon we'll tell him we like him until this group gathered in the office of mr. Wrayburn at the invitation of then representative Johnson mr. Johnson said he was late to the affair which will be at five o'clock and he said about five minutes after 5:00 his son rang mr. Wrayburn said vice president's here and he says he's not going to stay if the man who gave the party isn't here to greet him so Lyndon Johnson said he put aside the telephone and remember him saying he talked to a Texas mayor that day who'd always thought if you talked long distance you had to talk a long time well Mr Rayburn called him over and mr. Johnson put down the phone and hurried across the capitol busting time to see mr. Wrayburn leaving his own office door and looking down the hall where mr. Truman had was walking away Johnson said he was quite apologetic and he said Mr Speaker I hope I didn't offend our guest mr. Wrayburn said no it's a strange thing and I don't understand it myself but while we were here he had a phone call he turned around to me and said they want me to come to the White House and it's a funny thing they want me to come to the front door that was the day the Franklin Roosevelt died I was a day that Lyndon Johnson first learned but he burned a much harder way today what it means to cool from the vice presidency to the presidency of course when a mr. Aznar was present he Lyndon Johnson was then a powerful leader of the Democrats in the Senate first as Minority Leader and then for three terms as Majority Leader a Democratic leader with a Republican

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Democratic leader with a Republican president but again to a certain extent it was a friendship that both men had for mr. Wrayburn we used to smilingly say mr. Eisenhower was from his district in Texas because that's where mr. Eisenhower was born mr. Wrayburn used to joke about it being his boy and mr. Johnson took up the same story they were close friends President Eisenhower and Lyndon Johnson we asked him again one time about his acceptance of the vice presidential nomination he said he really had no choice that he had not especially wanted to do it mr. Wrayburn had said if we go down to that convention in Los Angeles and give up easy these were mr. Rayburn's words to Lyndon Johnson if they give would give up easy we won't go back to Texas having trouble out there he on her hand so we make a fight and if we lose Texas will respect us and so Lyndon Johnson used to laugh himself about the day he came down the elevator at the end of the Democratic convention one of his daughters turned to him and said daddy can't we go to Disneyland today mr. Johnson said I'm sorry dear we didn't come here to go to Disneyland and her answer was we didn't come here to run for vice president either that's the story of Lyndon Johnson who seemed one set of eyes now to ever be Morgan at the White House this majestic monument to George Washington is serving as a kind of tombstone tonight measuring in its height the height of sorrow of Washington the Capitol for a fallen president even the bloodshot winking lights on its peak warning against airplanes themselves are symbolic of the sorrow and anger that Washington Fields people's official windows the windows of official offices are still bright with lights the government goes on and indeed the shift of government officials from

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the shift of government officials from high to low is working under grief and under pressure for the transition that has already technically taken place to President Lyndon Johnson about all that the people in Washington and people including the people here in the West Executive wing of the White House we're press secretary Salinger has his office and where the correspondence ordinarily assigned to cover the president have their offices right here about all that people can do tonight besides sorrow is to reminisce over the times of when they first met this remarkable man who is now dead reminiscences in a sense are a kind of a cheap thing and yet inevitably what is there else to talk about among friends and among strangers on a night like this this correspondent remembers first meeting John F Kennedy when he was running for the Senate against a man named Henry Cabot Lodge in Massachusetts in 1952 an ironic an unexpected twist of history cabot lodge has been President Kennedy's ambassador in recent weeks of high emergency and tragedy and drama - to South Vietnam and has been on his way home for other purposes at that time Adlai Stevenson was the Democratic candidate for president of the United States and as a correspondent I was covering Stevenson in Massachusetts when he came into the state to campaign with Kennedy there was a certain coolness between the two politicians then and there remained a certain coolness between them but a great deal of mutual respect grew up over the years after all that was incredibly enough 11 years ago needless to say John F Kennedy clobbered

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needless to say John F Kennedy clobbered as they say on the sport pages clobbered his opponent Cabot Lodge in that election and moved from the house to the Senate and inevitably is almost every other correspondent covering the hill and the White House in Washington did this reporter met him personally and socially he used to like with his wife to have little dinners at his house on end Street in Georgetown anything but pretentious dinners they were a couple of correspondents and their wives or girls some official of the government some colleague from the Senate sitting down to a good dinner and having good serious talk with a little banter from Mrs. Kennedy with her delicious wit thrown in between to spice the courses so to speak I remember that I felt it necessary at that point at one time to repay the hospitality of the then Senator Kennedy and I invited him and Mrs. Kennedy to my house for dinner one night in Georgetown they accepted I remember that Dean Acheson and his wife were a couple of the other guests but as the time for dinner came I as the host and I suppose most hosts and hostesses in this particular position began to squirm because the Kennedys have not arrived a half hour went by and they still hadn't arrived 45 minutes went by myself and my other guests were there nervously drinking our drinks the dinner was getting overcooked and then the telephone rang it was Senator Kennedy he was all profuse apologies by some unavoidable but unfortunate mix-up he had been given my office number at ABC Way out on Connecticut Avenue instead of my home and he would be there in a moment needless to say there was great relief they came and we had a lively evening I

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they came and we had a lively evening I didn't know until that moment that there had been a certain sharpness between the former Secretary of State Mr. Truman Secretary of State Dean Acheson and the senator partly because the elder man who had had who had been versed greatly in affairs of state and diplomacy thought that the younger man was something of an upstart and he was a bit more than a bit foot back by Mr. Kennedy's speech in the Senate which became celebrated at the time denouncing the Western approach and particularly the Washington approach that would have been the policy of the then Eisenhower administration toward the situation of the Algerian war and there were a few sharp if controlled exchanges between the two that evening but it led eventually to a very close working relationship and again mutual respect between the two the next morning I received by special delivery a package from Mrs. Kennedy along with a charming note saying how much she and her husband had enjoyed the evening and would I accept an apology a little pot of Strasbourg potato frog de foie gras I did with relish this was the way the senator worked himself into the respect and into the affection I might say of a good deal of Correspondence in Washington treating with them easily being easily accessible being Frank with his relationships and there are others

much more intimate who were much more intimate with him than I who could tell many other stories about it the situation it goes back to his nomination in 1960 when it was incredible that Lyndon Johnson beyond the ticket and I happened to be in the automobile with

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happened to be in the automobile with him the afternoon of the crucial vote on his own nomination and asked him if he were nominated as he was confident that he would be would it be Hubert Humphrey his running mate or who and he said no no if I get it we'll have to start all over again and if I as a correspondent had had any sense I would have known then that he was thinking actively of Lyndon Johnson now I would like to show a video tape of an interview that some of my ABC colleagues and I had some months ago with Lyndon Johnson before he became president vice president how did you happen to run for the vice presidency well after I was defeated for the presidency it Los Angeles I got my first goodnight state in several weeks and the next morning I got the nominee for president and mr. Kennedy a call man we had a meeting he asked me to go on the ticket I considered it talked to many of my friend recognized that there were only two offices in the land which all the people had a choice and I felt that it offered a good opportunity and it would be quite a challenge it would be a different experience for me after my friend started to be good for the party and the country and I brushed my willingness to accept the nomination and the convention nominated still mr. vice president as majority leader you had developed a glowing reputation as a

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developed a glowing reputation as a wheeler and dealer in the best political sense of those terms did you not feel that this was a comedown some what your present post no I felt it was a different type of assignment but actually I felt that it offered opportunities that I had really never had before and with my service in the House or the Senate I have never felt that vice presidency that come down from anything except opposes the vice-president this through history this office though has not enjoyed the highest refuge and many of the men who have served in it many of them less active than you I felt their time and talents wasted since you've been in office now have you found it to be a satisfying and a challenging job for an active man yes I've been very gratified if the opportunities that have come my way I think what you do largely depends upon your relationship with the president and what the president wishes you to do although in the last few years in a sense it was the dawn of the 33rd vice president vice president Wallace and vice president to Nixon additional responsibilities have been added to the office like under President Truman's administration and the vice president has made a member the Security Council under President Eisenhower's administration the vice president was placed in charge of the government contracts program and the President Kennedy as the vice president has been made chairman of the Peace Corps Advisory Committee had been placed on the space Council by statute and recommendation the president is channeling the space Council has participated in the deliberations of the

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participated in the deliberations of the Security Council and I think that it has given me a very good outline outlet was let's tell them some energies as I've had and the president has been very understanding and asked me to undertake the assignment from time to time which have been quite challenging and very gratifying well certainly the office has changed mr. vice president what would be the Lyndon Johnson definition of the vice presidency to a student of politics it may be a one sentence definition of I don't know that I could keep it to one sentence but the Constitution provides if he/she will preside over the Senate and the law provided he to preside over the space Council be remember the Security Council provided the peaceful counsel said in the cabinet meetings at the president's invitation and then I would say do whatever the president asked me to do the most vice president has recently say is dawes mr. lorry's Vice President the Vice President was residing officer of the Senate he had no executive responsibilities do you find this a happy melding of of your talents now that you can do certain work in the executive branch as the president wishes and that geriatric constitutional point oh yes I think I would be quite dissatisfied if they only

assignment I had would be to preside over the Senate it's often been said that Mr. Truman was the only this very brief period in the Presidency felt himself totally unprepared for the presidency the day suddenly came to it that he was not informed about such important matters as the atomic bomb about some of the political arrangements that have been made with our lives abroad I take it that this has had a happier change now and that you do feel informed consulted and prepared if the day should come

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and prepared if the day should come quickly and you might have to become the president yourself I think that's a correct statement Mr. Lawrence President Kennedy and the members of his staff and this company have given me every opportunity to be aware of all the important decisions that have been made and to participate in them and to make any recommendation I cared to make and I have been a party's over say I'm important the deliberations in connection with the invasion of Cuba and again life stopped over when we had the missile crisis in Cuba we had some 35 National Security Council meetings or meetings of the Executive Committee of the Security Council which I was a member and I participated and all but one of those meetings recommendations were asked and received in both instances our the party to both decision vice president you know I want to make it abundantly clear that the responsibility is with the president and the president made the decision and accepted responsibility for it you were speaking a moment ago of important decisions have you let your mind travel back over your own personal most important decisions in politics perhaps your most important votes are your most important decisions outside of voting have you ever taken time could you take a second now to do so I had a great opportunity to work closely with Mr. Wrayburn and Majority Leader the House speaker and I guess

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Leader the House speaker and I guess that one of the most important and dramatic events of my time in the house I always served on the on Services Committee there is when we were extending the draft in 1941 I went by Mr. Rivers home that morning for breakfast and we tried to get a nose count it didn't look good it was all this before Pearl Harbor we canvassed to get many numbers and finally I suggested to the speaker mid-morning that we should try to get Secretary of State Cordell Hull to write a letter urging the Congress to extend the draft revenue very delivered mannish he didn't know about the words of Alaskan secretary state to be sending a letter and appearing with a debate in the house at the last moment but after some reflection he agreed to do it and the letter was delivered about 10 minutes before the debates closed and Mr. Aaron went to the well of the house and some doubts I think about the words the mother suggestion I've made but he read that letter from the Cordell Hull as you know secretary Hall was all a member the house greatly respected the Congress and that walk the way to fall and then Mr. Berner took the gavel in the Speaker's chair and we were several votes behind at the roll call was ended and a few numbers change their vote and finally we got one vote ahead and that's 11 bang the gavel and announce the vote and our army was not sent home in August before Pearl Harbor in the assembly and

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before Pearl Harbor in the assembly and the civil rights fight over 57 we had a very interesting debate in the Senate an old civil rights bill had been passed in 83 years we were determined to pass on the Rights Act in 1960 we spent 237 days and nights here most of the time I spent on that couch we had to get the forms I'd want to talk more in 3 o'clock in the morning but we were determined to pass the bill and we wouldn't pass it by rather a substantial vote the fact that we passed legislation of that time for the first time in 83 years was a rather significant funding these public hearings after Russia Sputnik one and then while we were having the hearings or studying the situation or ethnic - what up at the ballgame and following those hearings I made recommendation the Democratic caucus that we needed they go into an accelerated space program some of the members are left at the suggestion I was rather widely ridiculed in the press one of the most prominent man the country said that he felt that he'd let Lyndon occupy outer space and he'd keep his feet on the ground but out of that we wrote the Space Act that I introduced and it's now the law of the land we've

introduced my house I speak from upon me but it has met the pests of time and we realize if 90% of all the scientists have ever lived there living now we realize a great future and opportunities that are open to us we realize the great challenges that are ahead we realize at five thousand a new

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ahead we realize at five thousand a new companies that come into being that are doing nothing except working in this field they recognize the using the information that we get from space to save billions of dollars in investments in connection with the weather millions of lives and we're using it to cure disease and tuberculosis and things of that kind I think that was rather significant achievement and something that I was proud to be associated along with Thomas Macaulay interacting mr. vice president at that time that was a example was it not of the congressional leadership of the Democratic Party fighting an administration that they're not willing to move flex it swiftly into space is that a fair analysis well I think some in the administration had their doubts although I went through and conferred with the president number of times and the president was a 9-hour and he made there some suggestions or which you were constructive we accepted them and I would say that he was a party to all we did and he approved the Act and I I don't think that he was obstructive in any way mr. vice president the civil rights decision which you consider one of your most important it you're involved in the vice presidency now all right deeply in civil rights is the equal employment opportunities Commission the head of that Commission a job of real Authority or is this a ceremonial function of the vice-president it's a it's a very difficult job and a very satisfying job the president asked Mary President Kennedy asked me Palm Beach we will make a study of this field and to come back to him with recommendations took several months to do that some four months we have the best lawyers are in government a man like that of the Attorney General

[00:38:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=2280s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=2280s)

a man like that of the Attorney General cuts him back and the best lawyers in private industry like accounts laid borders they studied this subject thoroughly and they drafted an executive order that was very comprehensive it covers some two hundred and ninety three thousand contracts that the federal government has in existence upon which some twenty million persons are employed it gives to the president's committee authority to cancel any one of those contracts everybody it no no we haven't cancelled anyways inform growing my on many occasions that we're about to cancel but we've always negotiated rhythm and them to either remove the discrimination or to accept our recommendations we so under this executive order which is very comprehensive we have said to any person who works on a government contract if you feel that you're discriminated against you write a postcard or make your complaint to committee and we will adjudicate your case we have adjudicated some 500 more cases in the first 18 months of this administration and we're handled in the previous six years to show you something about the volume of committee three out of four of those cases approximate three out of four 73% have been adjudicated in favor of the complainant so the individual has been discriminated against that works on when these contracts are far the government knows that if they have a just complaint that it will be justly handled and we're very proud of our achievements and that field in addition to that do we involve a two and a half million government workers any of them were discriminated against can complain they have their kids adjudicated we have on a voluntary basis two people who are not covered by the executive order in some cases and by others are willing to go farther than the executive

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willing to go farther than the executive order requires we have signed plans for progress with a hundred and three of the largest industrial concerns in this country I suppose you would rate compliance itself as an accomplishment mr. vice president but could you project the tiny bit into the future can you see anything specifically tangible coming Negro stewardesses on hair line something of that kind are you in about it yes we've had we've had many breakthroughs we already have Negro stewardess on Airlines as a result of a specific request to various companies and we have had many breakthroughs our big problem there's our

educational problem when I dr. reasoner was talking with me yesterday and he made a presentation to the presidents of many universities who are here now we we have not been fair with a Negro and his education he hasn't had adequate an ample education to permit him to qualify for many jobs at open time and most of our manufacturing plants are industrial plants are our government contractors they have many more jobs for Negroes and Negroes can qualify far so our problem is to get the union to take a man and give them apprentice training our problem is to have them retrained our problem is to give them ample educational opportunities our problem is to try to remove the inequality that exists in their training because once they have adequate training they can qualify and they if they can qualify any of the big companies they will give them job mister vice president's talk a bit about your work as chairman of the space Council what specifically are some of the hard decisions you've had to make in this capacity well the first one was well the deck booster in January act

[00:42:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=2520s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=2520s)

well the deck booster in January act President took office way have reported in 58 and committee I chaired that we should immediately go to the big booster but the biggest administration and not accepted to that decision so that was the first recommendation the second one was to review all the authorizing legislation that was submitted to the Congress in connection with an accelerated space program as well as of corporations and the council undertook weeks of hearings hearings of all the scientists manufacturing concerns businessman labor leaders members of Congress both House and Senate chairmen of committees including authorizing and appropriations committee and in the spring of the 61 we recommend the president that he submit the accelerated program that would get us on the way to the moon the president accepted our recommendations and submitted that program to Congress and then in swear of them it enacted it and has described the money almost unanimously ever since since that time there have been many excuses of where we need to coordinate the effort of the military and the effort of the civilian and space base for both of them I have a compelling interest and we don't want to see duplication occur we want to get the most out of our dollar and the space counselors made up of the Secretary of State Secretary of Defense the administrator of the NASA and the chairman of Atomic Energy Committee and the vice president presides over to Shawn Atomic Energy Commission the vice president presides over that Council of five we attempt to resolve the differences that may exist between different departments coordinate those recommend the assignment of specific responsibilities recommend the appropriation of specific amounts and up to now I would say that it's been a

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to now I would say that it's been a highly successful operation secretary of McNamara is a living and able man and there's no man in this country that's done a finer job than Minister the web and although at times they appear to be duplicating each other's effort we have worked out agreements encourage them to work them out that would avoid duplication and avoid waste and I would say that the space council's principle function is to advise the president upon his request of what this nation space policies should be do you remain confident that we can put a man on the moon in the 60s and are you confident that we will be first run confident that in the sixties that we will put a man on the moon and I'm not in the position to say now who will get there first mr. but I think that we're going to do a good constructive responsible a job in this field and I don't think that it's just the competition that is determining what we do I think we want to be sure that we are people not only have leadership but have available all the knowledge that it's possible to acquire and I think we're doing that in a solid responsible way some recommendations made we could spend a few hundred million dollars more and speed it up a few days or weeks but we have been deliberate and prudent and at the same time I think with our eyes and the stars we kept our feet on the ground I think we have a good space program and I think the president will be remembered for the courage initiative it took to get this going mr. vice president these two major new responsibilities of the vice presidency in civil rights and in space turn out to coincide with the two fields in which you take the greatest personal pride for your activities in Congress civil rights in space some people might be tempted to

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in space some people might be tempted to conclude that the vice presidency these days is what the man who occupies it makes it in the sense that he carries his own interests into shaping the job is that would that be correct yes I think it is there's something married for that although I I would want to objectively I should have to say that my predecessor mr. Nixon was very interested in this field and President Eisenhower blazed the trail by appointing him as chairman of our predecessor committee the committee on government contracts and he was quite interested in that field I think however more depends not on the desire or the ambition of the person who is vice president as it depends upon the the judgment and a decision of the man who's president we don't have a system president we don't have a co-president we don't have an acting president under our system we have one man that's president that's commander-in-chief and he's the only president we have and we look to him for leadership now he has a right to call upon anyone in this country for his services and the vice president in recent years the president has usually influenced the selection of his vast person like amenities and in that case he naturally feels that he's at liberty to call on so what the Vice President does is largely determined by what the president wants him to do provided Congress concurs the president has rather strongly indicated already mr. vice president that he will be a candidate for a reelection in 1964 and that if you are willing he would be happy to have you run Willie what is your reaction to this I'm very interested in what we're going to do in 63 I think that who is nominated in 64

[00:48:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=2881s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=2881s)

63 I think that who is nominated in 64 will depend upon the delegates who have not yet been selected I would certainly hope that the delegates who are selected would look with approval upon the work that the president has done and that I have attempted to do but so far is crossing that bridge right now I think that's the matter for the delegates to determine and I'm a great admirer of the president's leadership I have been for a long time I asked my state of Texas to support him for vice president in 1956 I passed over many senior members and Texas dead vote for candidate for vice president in the 56 convention that he lost I passed over many men for applicants for Foreign Relations Committee because I felt as Senator Kennedy from Massachusetts possessed unusual attributes and unusual leadership qualities and unusual abilities in this field I have been very happy to see that your services president confirmed the early estimates that a good many people had of him when he was a member of the Senate and I hope the people of the country realize it burdens from responsibilities he's caring and how what actively he's handled this job you are a political realist above all things you wouldn't want to leave any doubt that the delegates to the Democratic convention would have any native John F Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson if Lyndon Johnson wants to go I first my hope not matter and I gave you my view of what I thought of this administration's record and I approval of it all I'm saying is that I'm not authorized at this moment to make the

[00:50:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=3002s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=3002s)

authorized at this moment to make the decision for the delegates mr. vice president I ask this question generally as well as specifically does a man an accomplished politicians such as yourself who has once reached for the presidency at least for the nomination and failed reconcile himself not to reach again or is it in his blood and and he would like to mr. Morgan I don't consider that I have ever reached for the presidency my friends put me in the race in 1960 they felt that they should have representation and that my name should go before the convention I doubted the advisability of that and so stated on many occasions and over on that desk I was looking this morning in my mouth on his ladies you lie v when I announced that I would allow my name to go before the convention I did not at that time I feel that I was seeking the presidency my friends thought they'll to have an opportunity to vote for me and I agreed but I that's the way I felt about it I didn't feel as a candidate I didn't go into any of the primaries I didn't go out and ask any delegations to commit themselves to me in 1960 and I have no plans to do so now do I spell and I suppose really this conversation it has already answered this last question that see if you sound up for us how are you enjoying life Thursday

we face many problem we live in the critical area I'm quite concerned about day to day developments from a personal standpoint I'm very happy I have everything a man could walk a fine relationship with the people with whom I work of the family I enjoy my work out if my desk after nine o'clock last night

[00:52:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Whs4irzQ&t=3121s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Whs4irzQ&t=3121s)

if my desk after nine o'clock last night I have an opportunity to meet the leaders of the world I go out and see the people of the world or whether they're in the streets of Santa Domingo on the sandy roads of Karachi or whether it's a camel driver or a king or Prime Minister and I constantly thankful and grateful that my country is and my parents have given me the opportunity to share the achievements at this time thank you that sounds very happy thank you very much that was the videotape of a special program on Lyndon Johnson last March 26th on his role as vice president of time when many thought he might have been lost in the shuffle of bureaucracy included where ABC correspondents bill Lawrence John Wilson Edward P Morgan President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas today despite the most elaborate precautions taken by his Secret Service bodyguards the agents had checked into all aspects of the president's visit the food he would eat the roads either travel the buildings he would enter even the flowers that he would smell the Secret Service men were reluctant about permitting the president to speak in the Dallas trademark because of the piers of balconies overlooking the main court they're giving the potential assassin a good opportunity to hide then shoot down when the President did appear the president went ahead anyway a list of known agitators in Dallas anyone who might conceivably stir up trouble was obtained from local law man the Secret Service men made themselves familiar with these persons and their patterns but they missed one man the assassin the motorcade route was thoroughly checked out trouble spots were noted particularly where traffic or crowd conditions might get out of hand it is the motorcade above all if the Secret Service men worry about most chief executives riding and open cars down crowded streets are extremely vulnerable as targets for assassination

[00:54:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Whs4irzQ&t=3240s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Whs4irzQ&t=3240s)

vulnerable as targets for assassination but agents point out that is impossible to check every occupant entering parade route buildings on the day of a motorcade and this in effect is what happened one man holed up in one building along a long motorcade route with a rifle and a telescopic sight he was as hard to find or to spot as the proverbial needle in a haystack he shot the kill he shot with deadly accuracy using a bolt-action rifle he fired three bullets unusually swiftly as if he had trained for this murder for a long time one bullet hit the President's head another bullet seriously wounded Texas Governor John Connally the latest news of John Connally comes from Memorial Hospital in Dallas there dr. Robert Shaw performed surgery on the bullet wounded governor of Texas dr. Shaw has said that he anticipated nope damage he also said the President Kennedy's death had not been mentioned in the 46 year old governor who was Kennedy's first secretary of the Navy and dr. Shahs words Connolly who was wounded by one bullet through the right shoulder was perfectly lucid and talked no more than any other injured man would have the city of Dallas is in deepest mourning tomorrow's edition of the Dallas Morning News carries an editorial saying if the city vows its head in the incredible shock of the president's assassination the editorial goes on so it cannot be charged with fairness that an entire city is in national disgrace but certainly its reputation has suffered regrettable damage and the quote more from Dallas now as we join our ABC affiliate there wfaa-tv and J Watson Thank You J Watson bill Lord and Bob Clarke in Dallas and here in New York some useful background commentary now toward our understanding of the sometimes politically volatile situation in Texas and in Dallas too from my Texan born colleague ABC's Murphy Martin the fact that Texas has more electoral votes than any other southern state 25 this does not reflect the entire inner

[00:56:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Whs4irzQ&t=3360s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Whs4irzQ&t=3360s)

does not reflect the entire inner struggle for political domination there until 1952 Texas had always been considered a democratic state after governor Allan shivers led the conservative Democratic elements of the state into the Eisenhower fold in 1952 the battle between liberals and conservatives grew more intense and

in addition to liberals and conservatives extremist groups were suddenly more intelligent they John Birch Society and the National indignation convention were among the groups heard from most often before the 1960 election mr. and mrs. Lyndon Johnson narrowly escaped injury when they were mobbed and spat on in the lobby of a Dallas hotel where mr. Johnson had gone to speak but although many liberal Texas Democrats were not strong supporters of mr. Johnson being placed on that 1960 Democratic ticket the Democrats regained the state's electoral votes with the popular vote for ality of 46,000 over dick Nixon out of more than 2 million votes cast in 1960 perhaps one reason for the added police protection in Dallas today for mr. Kennedy was an incident that occurred on October 24th of this year UN Ambassador Adlai Stevenson was in Dallas that day to give a speech on UN day at Municipal Auditorium after being booed by the audience certain members of the audience he made the speech and when leaving the building he was spat upon jeered and one woman Pinkett hit him with a sign at that particular time as officers moved in - apparently arrest the woman mr. Stevenson said don't arrest her it could have been an accident wait a minute I want to talk to her he walked over to where officers were holding the woman and asked what is wrong what do you want the woman replied why are you like you are why don't you understand if you don't know what's wrong I don't know why everyone else does mr. Stevenson replied just don't hit anyone Stevenson said that he did

[00:58:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=3482s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=3482s)

hit anyone Stevenson said that he did not want to send them to jail talking about the demonstrators I want to send them to school 100 business leaders of Dallas after this outbreak in this demonstration against UN Ambassador Adlai Stevenson the business leaders sent telegrams to Stevenson in which they said the city was quote outraged and ashamed of the disgraceful discourteous courtesies that he suffered while in Dallas and it is also interesting to note that prior to mr. Kennedy's scheduled trip to Texas today apparently to mend some of the political fences there originally he was not scheduled to have the downtown parade through Dallas but after some of the liberal Texas Democrats said that the allotment of tickets to the scheduled dinner in Dallas this noon had not seen enough tickets go to the Liberals after this and after much haggling about it and after a telegram from one of the Democratic liberals of the state Baxton Bryant to the White House in which he said to mr. Kennedy it appears from the allotment of tickets that mr. Nixon is coming home to his dedicated workers worse you're coming here are words to that effect after this the parade was scheduled but despite the addition of more than 400 additional policemen today the tragedy still occurred it might be interesting to note that in addition to the National indignation convention and also the John Birchers Dallas is also the resident residence of former General Edwin a Walker and he has been quoted from time to time in criticizing not only mr. Kennedy with the Kennedy administration in Chicago February 9th of last year general Walker was quoted as saying Kennedy has never done anything so dramatic as standing on top of Lenin's tomb but his stroll through the garden with Khrushchev in Vienna last June was evidence of a desire to talk as far as possible with the Soviets and so it goes it's not just

[01:00:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=3600s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1Wh4irzQ&t=3600s)

the Soviets and so it goes it's not just merely a battle between the liberals and conservatives of Texas although the conservative stronghold is in the Dallas area but there are other factions as we have mentioned to you that figure in to the overall political posture of the Lone Star State Bob

END